

***Remarks***

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-5 and 8-28 are pending in the application, with claims 1 and 12 being the independent claims. Claims 3, 8, 10, 14, 16, 19, 20 and 24 are sought to be amended. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

In the *Ex parte Quayle* Office Action dated April 21, 2005, claims 1-5 and 8-28 are indicated to contain allowable subject matter. Claims 3, 4, 8-11, 14-17, 19, 20 and 24 are objected to because of various informalities.

***Allowable Claims and Claim Objections***

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 1-5 and 8-28. Claims 3, 8, 10, 14, 16, 19, 20 and 24 have been amended to correct minor informalities specified by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objections to claims 3, 8, 10, 14, 16, 19, 20 and 24 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claim 4 depends from claim 3. The objection to claim 4 is rendered moot by amended claim 3. Applicants therefore believe claim 4 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 9 depends from claim 8. The objection to claim 9 is rendered moot by amended claim 8. Applicants therefore believe claim 9 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 11 depends from claim 10. The objection to claim 11 is rendered moot by amended claim 10. Applicants therefore believe claim 11 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 15 depends from claim 14. The objection to claim 15 is rendered moot by amended claim 14. Applicants therefore believe claim 15 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 17 depends from claim 16. The objection to claim 17 is rendered moot by amended claim 16. Applicants therefore believe claim 17 is in condition for allowance.

***Second Supplemental IDS of February 28, 2005***

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner acknowledge receipt and consideration of the IDS (Second Supplemental IDS) filed on February 28, 2005.

***Conclusion***

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

  
Patrick E. Garrett  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 39,987

Date: 7/13/05

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934  
(202) 371-2600

410255\_1.DOC

Atty. Docket: 1875.0560001